

former, and with a proper leader can do as they please with the city.

The United States steam frigate returned from Greytown to Aspinwall yesterday. She left Aspinwall a few days since on a cruise, and happened in at Greytown at the right time. Her Britannic Majesty's ship *Victoria* sent her officers on board the Washington to search for filibusters, and that, too, after the steamer had been bound by the officers of the Savannah. It seems that Sir William Gore Ouseley had given orders that all American vessels should be searched upon entering the harbor of Greytown; but Commander McIntosh of the Roanoke has notified him that he shall not permit the order to be carried out. The Commodore has come to Aspinwall to communicate with the home Government on the subject, by the steamer which leaves to-day. Of course, you will get the particulars.

JAPAN.

CONSUL-GENERAL HARRIS'S LETTERS TO COMMODORE PERRY.

OPENING OF COMMERCIAL NEGOTIATIONS—HIS JOURNEY FROM SIMODA TO YEDDO—FIRST IMPRESSIONS IN THE CITY.

To Consul-General Perry, United States Navy.

United States Consulate General, *Japan*, *Simoda*, Oct. 27, 1857.

MY DEAR COMMODORE PERRY: Your kind favor of Decem. 18, 1857, did not come to hand until the 26th inst., as I was fourteen months at this place without receiving any letters or information from the U.S. Consul. The United States' ship of war Port-Portsmouth touched here on the 1st of last month, but she did not bring me any letters. Her stay here was very short—long enough to enable me to finish my official letters. Had time permitted, I would have written to you before.

I am much obliged to you for your good advice; it was thoughtful and well-timed, and I have found every one of your opinions as to the course the Japanese would pursue with me, prove true to the letter.

Early last March I made a convention with the Japanese, which, among other provisions, secured the right of permanent residence to Americans at Shonan and Hikozaki ports, a Consul at Hikozaki, opened Nagasaki, settled the currency question, and the dollar now passes for 150 yen, dash, or 150,000 sen. Justly, admits the editor of the *Yedo Nichi-nichi-sho*, a Spanish newspaper, that our Convention is a great ruler, and not Zengen, whom means "Generalissimo," so also, "Meiko" means "The Court," the true name of the place being Kotsa. You are aware that with the Japanese precision and rank are equivalent. Before I arrived here I had determined on the course I would follow here.

I followed Simeida, they wished me to engage that I would not visit their shops, or the business part of Yedo, or, as they express it, "not to go where common people live."

I declined making any such engagement, and told them I must be entirely free to go out from my residence when I pleased, and it was with this clear understanding that I began my journey.

At the same time, I had the privilege of exercising that right, and, except on the occasion of my arrival and three interviews with the Foreign Minister, I have only been out twice, and that was merely for a walk back and forth in a *coco*, or "*Champ de Mars*," in the park, my residence.

All the interviews (except the first) and the negotiations took place at my quarters. From all this you will understand I cannot give you more than a very important account of it had been agreed on.

In October 1856, I wrote to the Council of State at Yedo to tell them the course of a friendly letter from the President of the United States, addressed to the Emperor of Japan, and that I had some important matters to communicate, which greatly concerned the honor and welfare of Japan. I desired the Council to give orders for my proper reception on the road from Yedo to Nagasaki, and to inform me when those arrangements were completed. For full ten months the Japanese used every possible expedient to get me to deliver the letter at Simeida, and to make my communication to the Governors of this place. I steadily refused to do either, and at last they yielded, and I shall start for Yedo some time next month. I can to have an audience of the Emperor, and of that time I am to deliver the letter.

I am satisfied that no commercial treaty can be made by negotiations carried on anywhere but at Yedo, unless it is negotiated by me up by a powerful despot. It is when at Yedo to come into the government that it is possible for them to conduct their present system of non-intercourse, and that it will be for their honor and interest to yield to argument rather than force.

I do not expect to accomplish all that I desire on this occasion, but it will be a great step in the way of direct negotiations with the Consular State, and the beginning of a train of enlightenment of the Japanese that will sooner or later lead them to desire to open the country truly to intercourse with foreign nations.

I have just obtained a copy of your "Expedition to Japan and the China Seas," and have read it with intense interest. I hope it is no vanity in me to say that no one at present can so well appreciate and do justice to your work as I can. You seem at once, and almost intuitively, to have adopted the best of all courses with the Japanese. I am sure no other course would be resulted so well. I have seen quite a number of Japanese who saw you when you were at Simeida, and they all make eager inquiries after you. *Yossewa* a Yosseki at Simeida, and has not forgotten your name.

Please accept my respectful compliments to Mr. Perry and to the other members of your family.

TOWNSSEND HARRIS.

P.S.—Should you write to me, please address your letters to the care of Messrs. Russell & Co., Hong Kong, and mark the letters "per overland mail," vs. Southampton.

TO COM. PERRY, U. S. N. S.

CITY OF YEDDO, March 8, 1858.

MY DEAR COM. PERRY: In my letter to you I said I should go to Yedo the next month. I accordingly left Simeida on the 23d of November, and arrived here on the 3d of December, having passed the intervening Sano at Kawasaki, the place that Captain Butcher reached when he made his dash at Yedo. Before leaving the United States the President gave me special full power to negotiate a commercial treaty with the Japanese, which fact I made known to the Consul.

I was accordingly received and entertained on my journey by the representative of the President of the United States, and every possible honor was paid to me in that character.

I did not have occasion to complain of any omission of marks of respect; on the contrary, I would very gladly have dispensed with them if in order and except clean a few weeks before I passed. The authorities of each town or city get me at their respective boundaries, and walk before me quite through their little Government. Trav'los the road was entirely suspended, so I did not see those crowds of travelers, porters, mules, etc., etc., mentioned by Kämpfer. Business was suspended in all the towns and villages, only the cook-shops and tea-houses being open on the 2d. The people, indeed, holiday dresses, were kneeling on mats in front of their dwellings. Not a sound was heard, nor a gesture indicative of curiosity was seen; all was re-spectable and quiet.

All of the railroads of Japan, when used as a road, are inferior to the garden roads of the West, being rough, and not of an agreeable flavor. When hauled along a few weeks before I passed, the authorities of each town or city get me at their respective boundaries, and walk before me quite through their little Government. Trav'los the road was entirely suspended, so I did not see those crowds of travelers, porters, mules, etc., etc., mentioned by Kämpfer. Business was suspended in all the towns and villages, only the cook-shops and tea-houses being open on the 2d. The people, indeed, holiday dresses, were kneeling on mats in front of their dwellings. Not a sound was heard, nor a gesture indicative of curiosity was seen; all was re-spectable and quiet.

The statements of *The World in Miniature*, concerning the Japanese, are much exaggerated. It is true that indusries are grown in every part of Japan, but nowhere are they a principal article of food; they are merely an adjunct to the rice, wheat and barley, which are the great staple of the country.

I ordered the best specimens of the long röshii to be brought to me when I first visited Yedo; the longest were less than thirty inches in length, and about one inch in diameter. This röshii, when dried, loses more than three-fourths of its bulk, and looks very like a whip-peach. With the long röshii, specimens of another kind were brought to me. These were shaped like our persimmon. The röshii measured sixteen inches long, fifteen in circumference, and weighed four pounds five ounces per weight.

One of the railroads of Japan, when used as a road, is inferior to the garden roads of the West, being rough, and not of an agreeable flavor. When hauled along a few weeks before I passed, the authorities of each town or city get me at their respective boundaries, and walk before me quite through their little Government. Trav'los the road was entirely suspended, so I did not see those crowds of travelers, porters, mules, etc., etc., mentioned by Kämpfer. Business was suspended in all the towns and villages, only the cook-shops and tea-houses being open on the 2d. The people, indeed, holiday dresses, were kneeling on mats in front of their dwellings. Not a sound was heard, nor a gesture indicative of curiosity was seen; all was re-spectable and quiet.

The only fruit that I have seen in Japan that particularly merits notice is the kaki, a variety of Date pynes, and belonging to the order of Ebenaceæ. It is really worthy of being introduced into the United States. Quite a number of sorts have been brought to me; one has a skin as thin as paper, and tastes like a peach. Another is a thick röshii, and a larger pulp than the sort first mentioned, while the taste strongly reminds me of the flavor of the delicious mango of Siam and Bombay. The tree is very ornamental, and of rapid growth. It would, no doubt, succeed in any part of the United States south of 37 degrees latitude. Unlike the pineapples of the United States, there is very little acidity in the skin of the fruit, and fruit, which matures the perfume, greatly injures the kaki. This fruit varies in size, but is always larger than its American relative, and some are even inches in diameter. The fruit is in season nearly three months. The Japanese dry this fruit, which enables them to keep it for some four months. When dried, it resembles the dried Smyrna fig in taste.

I send you a few seeds of the kaki, under this covering, thinking that they may possibly germinate after they reach Washington, and I know that they will only cause trifling addition to the postage of my letter.

TOWNSSEND HARRIS, Consul-General.

SAINT CLAIR.—In Brooklyn, on Wednesday evening, Dec. 11, by the Rev. Father Francis of the Church of St. Charles Borromeo, Thomas H. Ross to Anna, youngest daughter of Dr. R. B. Rutledge, cap. of St. John, Newfoundland.

CLARK-STONE.—On Wednesday, Dec. 5, in the Merchant's Church, by the Rev. Dr. Skinner, the Rev. E. L. Clark to Miss Jessie E. Stone of this city.

DUNPHY.—T.O.—On Thursday, Dec. 6, at the residence of Mrs. Maria P. Dunphy, 16 Union Place, New York, by Rev. Dr. Bryan, Esq., of this city.

MERRITTY-PARKER.—In New-York, by the Parsonage, by Rev. F. C. Dyer, and Elias John A. Merritt of this city.

RUGGLES.—At New-York, Wm. Wayne Flory, Henry J. F. Weston, and the Revs. Wm. H. Adams, Jr., Maria, daughter of Gen. Wm. H. Adams of Lyons.

They are no important change in Foreign Bills, and the supply is rather better of outside bills, not only

from the South but also from our Stock market. Rates are weak at 108½ to 109 for Sterling; 5½ to 5½ for France.

Frigates are very firm. To London—50 half-bells at 2s, 100 lbs.; Boston at 3s, 200 lbs.; Home at 3s, 27½ to 28½ pence.

BOSTON.—T.O.—On Friday, Dec. 7, in Chestnut, infusion of the Rev. Dr. M. Hubbard.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to a funeral from the residence of Mr. and Mrs. George S. Weston, Avenue, on Tuesday, 10th, at 1 p.m., unless further notice.

CONNELLLY.—On Saturday, Dec. 11, in the 4th year of his age, James Connally, deceased.

DAVISON.—In Brooklyn, on Saturday, Dec. 11, James Davison, son of James and Anna Davison, deceased.

DEAN.—In Brooklyn, on Saturday, Dec. 11, of his 21st year, John Dean, son of John and Anna Dean, deceased.

DELL.—In Brooklyn, on Saturday, Dec. 11, of his 21st year, John Dell, son of John and Anna Dell, deceased.

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